**Minutes of Worship and Outreach Committee: Monday 2nd March 2020**

*Present: Revd Andrew Micklefield, Robin Kemp, Sarah Neish, Revd Gordon Randall*

**1. Apologies**

Jenny Brake, Wendy Burnhams, David Allen

**2. Matters arising from the meeting on 3rd February**

a] Informal Evening Services

Numbers holding up well. Refreshments contribute to an informal atmosphere in which conversations can take place. Good response to last week’s ministry time, which can become an established feature of future services.

b] Pancake Race

240 pancakes distributed to appreciative families. Some leaflets distributed, but were the families aware of the parish providing the pancakes? Suggestion of vertical banners which won’t blow over in the wind [like the gazebo did] was well received.

**Action: 2 banners to be costed and commissioned**

c] Jigsaw Festival

Very positive meeting on 14th February, with Rosemary Arrowsmith-Oliver heading up the event in both Rotary and the parish churches, liaising principally with Derek Gurney. Subsequent to the meeting she has

offered that the first year’s income be split 60/40 in favour of the parish rather than the 50/50 originally proposed. Dates for festival agreed as Wednesday 28th to Saturday 31st October 2020.

20 jigsaws given to Alton Library

Glenda Blandford of “One Way” has asked whether further jigsaw could be donated to that organisation.

**Action: Robin to ask Aon if she is happy to take responsibility for pricing the jigsaws and Peter Bell to select 20 jigsaws to donate to “One Way”.**

d] Just One : Portsmouth Guildhall : Saturday 4th April

It was agreed that this event needs personalised promotion to take up the 20 tickets already purchased.

**Action: Andrew to give Gordon the Alpha email addresses for sending personalised invitations. Robin to promote with Mettle youth and Nick Sharp, inter alia. All committee members to encourage not-yet-Christians to attend.**

**3.Outreach on Wootey’s and Manor Estates**

Gordon welcomed the ecumenical approach to this long-term project, which he has agreed to head up.

Ben Burge of the Butts Church has already initiated a Tuesday morning offer of prayer during Lent at Raven Square [10.30-12 noon]. Both Andrew or Gordan will attend when they can as one of a group of 3 or 4 praying for people passing by. Others will sign up.

He shared the results of a small-scale questionnaire about outreach on these estates, which yielded the names of several willing volunteers.

The Buckle Centre between Wootey’s Junior and Infant Schools would provide a [modest-sized] venue for initial activities. In the longer term, perhaps after Christmas, the aim would be to start a Church @ 4, probably in the Infant School, with which links have already been established.

There is a proposal for two outdoor events [free barbecue, bouncy castle, ice-cream van, family fun competitions, etc.], one in July and another in September.

There could be a Christmas event, followed by the setting up of a monthly Church@4 event in the new year [2021].

This topic will be regularly on the agenda of this committee for the foreseeable future.

**Action: Gordon to approach the events manager at the town council, Emily-Jane Messenger, to agree which green space can best be used for this.**

**A sizeable arched gazebo to be costed: Robin to research.**

**4. Board games morning**

It was agreed that this needs positive advertisement in Parish Matters, a poster and leaflets. Proposed that this term’s should be on Saturday 28th March, 10.00a.m. to 12 noon.

**Action: Robin to approach Ellie who has agreed to organise such events.**

**5. Confirmation Services: 5th and 26th April**

Bishop David had been invited to preside at Holybourne and St Lawrence for these services. Candidates include Jane Standing, Boron, Adam Stickland, Daniel Micklefield: also Matthew Bayliss, who may wish to re-affirm his faith. There may be others.

**6. Re-ordering of St Lawrence**

The re-ordered space would lend itself to a variety of different forms of service to meet the needs of an expanding congregation. The discussion of the nature of these services needs to be a main item for a future agenda, a PCC meeting and a Parish Conversation.

**7. Parish Away-Day**

It was agreed that this should go ahead on 26th [or 19th] September, again in the Itchen Valley, but at another venue. The self-catering worked well, though a prepared sign-up list might prevent too much duplication.

**Action: Andrew to explore the availability of a church hall in his former parish for 26th September.**

**8. A.O.B**

a] The next Parish Conversation, on 21st March at All Saints, will include some consideration of how the building might be shared with the Butts Church.

b] Following a recent meeting between the leaders of the town churches it was proposed that there be a Harvest Tea at the Community Centre to which CAP and Foodbank volunteers and clients might be invited alongside the congregations of the various churches. This would replace the Harvest Supper the parish has traditionally shared with the Methodist Church.

c] Sarah has kindly offered to host the daybreak service on Easter Sunday again, although we would need to find another venue for next year.

**9. Date and time of next meeting**

Monday 6th April : 12 noon

*The meeting ended at 1.25p.m.*

*Robin Kemp*